

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed August 20, 2007 has been received and the Examiner's comments carefully reviewed. Claims 1-25 are rejected. Claims 1 and 21 have been amended. For at least the following reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections

Claims 21 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Poulsen (US 7,062,511). Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McKay (US 2003/Q217111) in view of Poulsen (US 7,062,511). The Applicants respectfully disagree but have amended the independent claims to more clearly define the invention.

As amended, Claim 1 recites in part “selecting, at an interface for modifying metadata associated with the element and accessing the location associated with the element, an interaction to be performed on the selected element” and “when the interaction selected at the interface for modifying metadata associated with the element and accessing the location associated with the element corresponds to an action to modify the metadata, performing the action with the retrieved metadata and updating the metadata in the database based on the performed action.” In contrast, neither McKay nor Poulsen teach an interface that allows a user to edit elements that are accessible from the interface and browsing the locations associated with the elements.

For example, page 12, paragraph 123 of McKay teaches an interface that allows a user to locate an element by assisting the user in narrowing a search. McKay does not teach that

metadata associated with an element is modified. Instead, McKay teaches only that an element matching search criteria be returned, rather than modified. Additionally, page 8, paragraph 96 of McKay teaches that the portal may be operated in a personal manner based on a schema table. McKay, however, does not teach that the schema table may be modified by the user browsing through the portal.

As stated on page 4 of the Office Action “McKay does not explicitly disclose when the interaction corresponds to an action to modify the metadata, performing the action with the retrieved metadata and updating the metadata in the database based on the performed action” Thus, McKay makes no teaching that when the interaction selected at the interface for *modifying metadata* associated with the element and accessing the location associated with the element corresponds to an action to modify the metadata, performing the action with the retrieved metadata and *updating the metadata in the database based on the performed action*.

Poulsen does not remedy the deficiencies of McKay. Poulsen makes no teaching of retrieving metadata associated with a selected element at *an interface that is used for both modifying content in a portal and browsing content in that portal*. Accordingly, Poulsen makes no teaching of selecting an element from a navigational hierarchy when browsing the portal. Poulsen teaches only “[a] portal web site development system for generating portal web sites.” Rather than teaching a portal that allows a user to browse information presented through a portal by selecting a navigational element, Poulsen teaches only the system for development the website. As shown in Figures 4A-4I, Poulsen teaches a step-by-step interface that allows a user to enter the information needed to create a portal.

Since none of the cited references teach that selecting, at an interface for modifying metadata associated with the element and accessing the location associated with the element, an interaction to be performed on the selected element and when the interaction selected at the interface for modifying metadata associated with the element and accessing the location associated with the element corresponds to an action to modify the metadata, performing the action with the retrieved metadata and updating the metadata in the database based on the performed action, Claim 1 is proposed to be allowable. Claims 2-20 are proposed to be allowable as they depend from a valid base claim.

As amended, Claim 21 recites in part a “a user interface in communication with the portal manager for modifying metadata associated with the elements and accessing locations associated with the elements, the user interface displaying a navigational hierarchy of the elements accessible from the portal and displaying information associated with the elements when they are accessed from the portal, wherein the navigational hierarchy of the elements is arranged in accordance with metadata in the element database, and wherein the user interface allows a user to edit the metadata associated with the elements.” For at least the reasons presented above, Claim 21 is proposed to be allowable. Claims 21-25 are proposed to be allowable as they depend from a valid base claim.

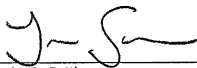
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application,

the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicants at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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